BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 94-235-S - ORDER NO. 94-367

This matter is before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on Midlands Utility, Inc.'s (Midlands') request for a modification of 26 S.C. Regs. 103-532.4 (Reg. 103-532.4). Reg. 103-532.4 allows a utility to collect any arrearages and a reconnection fee of \$250.00 prior to reconnecting service which has been disconnected for a violation of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. Specifically, Midlands requests that after it has once disconnected and reconnected a customer under the terms stated by Reg. 103-532.4, any subsequent reconnection fees be reduced from the stated \$250.00 to \$35.00 when an elder valve is used for disconnection. Midlands asserts that during an initial disconnection, it may install an elder valve to use to disconnect service during a subsequent disconnection. Midlands states that disconnection and reconnection of service by use of an elder valve is much less expensive than actual physical disconnection of a customer's sewer line.

26 S.C. Regs.103-500(B) allows the Commission to amend a regulation upon complaint, application of a utility, or upon its

own motion. The Commission finds that good cause has been shown by Midlands to reduce the reconnect fee to \$35.00 when disconnection and reconnection pursuant to Reg.103-532.4 has been made by the use of an elder valve. Further, the Commission finds it is in the public interest to reduce the reconnect fee from \$250.00 to \$35.00 when an elder valve is used. Accordingly, the Commission hereby approves the modification of Reg.103-532.4 under the circumstances described by this Order.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Chairman

ATTEST:

(SEAL)